

During a Flood

Last Updated Wednesday, 19 July 2006

During a Flood

-

Before a Flood

-

During a Flood

-

After a Flood

-

Benefits of Floods

-

Flood Information Links

During a flood, it's not just a matter of staying dry, it's a matter of life or death. Floods are some of the most expensive and deadly natural disasters we experience. Drowning is the number 1 cause of death in a flood, and most people drown in their vehicles. Electrocution is the number 2 cause of death in a flood.

If you are caught outdoors or in your vehicle during a flood:

-

Never drive in flood waters - It only takes 18 inches of water to carry a vehicle away.

-

Don't walk in flood waters - If the water is over your ankles, turn around and go the other way.

-

Climb to safety - Moving as little as 10 feet higher than where you are can make all the difference.

If you are indoors during a flood:

No possession is worth dying for, prepare your house ahead of time so that you only have to worry about yourself and loved ones during a flood. Follow these tips only if time permits. If flood waters are coming into your home, move to higher ground immediately.

-

Turn off the lights and appliances in your home. If you know how, turn off your gas and main circuit breakers.

-

Move your valuables to a higher floor.

-

Gather your emergency kit and any essential medications.

-

Listen to your battery-powered radio for updates and available travel routes.

-

Round up your pets.

-

Fill a few containers with clean water.

If you become trapped indoors:

-

Move to the highest floor in your building or even onto the roof and await rescue.

-

Do not touch appliances or turn on the lights if they are or have been wet.

-

Be alert for gas leaks. Do not smoke or light candles if you smell or suspect a gas leak.

If your basement is flooded:

-

For water only, call the Fire Department at 303-441-4444. They may have equipment available to help pump basements. If the Fire Department doesn't have equipment available, contact a private plumbing company for assistance.

-

For sewer backups, notify Utilities Maintenance at 303-413-7100 (between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.) or 303-441-3249 (after hours). The city will determine the cause of the backup and assist if possible.

For more information during a flood:

-

Tune your battery-powered radio to 850 AM KOA.

-

Call the city emergency information line at 303-441-4300

-

Call 303-413-7100 (between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.) or 303-441-3249 (after hours) to report flooding.

Last update: April 8, 2004

